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Fifty-first session
GENERAL COMMITTEE

ORGANIZATION OF THE FIFTY-FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS

Memorandum by the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Secretary-General has the honour to place before the General Committee, for its consideration, the following observations and proposals in connection with the report to be made to the General Assembly by the General Committee regarding the organization of the fifty-first regular session and future sessions of the Assembly, the adoption of the agenda and the allocation of items.

2. Over the years, the General Assembly has adopted a number of provisions aimed at rationalizing the procedures and organization of the Assembly. These provisions are reproduced in the annexes to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/520/Rev.15 and Amend.1 and 2, annexes I, II and IV-VIII).

3. The General Committee may wish to draw the General Assembly's attention to the provisions in annexes V, VI, VII and VIII to its rules of procedure, in particular to those provisions reproduced below under the relevant headings.

4. Furthermore, the Secretary-General wishes to draw the attention of the General Committee to General Assembly resolution 48/264 of 29 July 1994, entitled "Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly", and to annex I thereto, entitled "Guidelines on the rationalization of the agenda of the General Assembly". The Secretary-General also wishes to draw the attention of the Committee to annex I of General Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996, entitled "Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields". The provisions of the resolutions are reflected in the present document under the relevant headings.

II. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. General Committee

5. The Secretary-General wishes to draw to the General Committee's attention rule 40 of the rules of procedure as well as General Assembly decision 34/401 (A/520/Rev.15, annex VI, paras. 1 and 2), Assembly resolution 39/88 B (ibid., annex VII, para. 4) and the annex to resolution 45/45 (A/520/Rev.15 and Amend.1, annex VIII, para. 3) pertaining to the functions of the Committee.

B. Rationalization of work

6. The Secretary-General wishes to draw the attention of the General Committee to General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, whereby the Assembly decided that the recommendations as agreed upon and as contained in the report of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of

the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations 1/ should be implemented by the Secretary-General and the relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations.

7. In this connection, the Secretary-General wishes to draw the attention of the General Committee to the measures undertaken in pursuance of the goal of renewal and reform, in particular to recommendations 2, 3 and 7 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts, as reflected in the progress reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213 (A/42/234, A/43/286, A/44/222) as well as a supplementary report submitted to the Assembly at its forty-fifth session (A/45/226). The Secretary-General also wishes to draw the Committee's attention to Assembly resolution 46/232 of 2 March 1992 on the revitalization of the United Nations Secretariat, resolutions 46/235 of 13 April 1992, 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and 50/227 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, and resolution 48/264 and annex I thereto on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

8. The General Committee may wish to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 5 of the annex to resolution 45/45 (A/520/Rev.15 and Amend.1, annex VIII) which reads as follows:

> "5. The General Committee should consider, at the beginning of each session of the General Assembly, recommending that certain Main Committees should meet in sequential order, taking into account such matters as the number of meetings required for the consideration of the questions with which they are charged at that session, the organization of the work of the whole session and the problem of participation of smaller delegations."

The General Committee may wish also to draw the Assembly's attention to paragraph 23 of annex I of resolution 50/227, which reads as follows:

> "23. To the extent feasible, the discussions in the Second and Third Committees should not commence until after the end of the general debate in the plenary meetings of the General Assembly."

9. Furthermore, the Secretary-General wishes to draw the attention of the General Committee to the fact that measures introduced to reduce costs relating to overtime will be strictly enforced.

C. Closing date of the session

10. In accordance with the provisions of rule 2 of the rules of procedure, the General Assembly should fix a closing date for the fifty-first session. The General Committee may wish to recommend to the Assembly that the fifty-first session should recess not later than Tuesday, 17 December 1996, and close on Monday, 15 September 1997. The Committee may also wish to recommend to the

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49 (A/41/49).

Assembly that all the Main Committees should start their work as soon as possible and make every effort to complete their work by Friday, 29 November 1996.

D. Schedule of meetings

11. The General Committee may wish to recommend to the General Assembly that, in accordance with established practice, morning meetings should start at 10 a.m. promptly for all plenary meetings and meetings of the Main Committees during the fifty-first session. The Committee may also wish to recommend to the Assembly that, as a cost-saving measure, plenary meetings and meetings of the Main Committees, including informals, be adjourned by 6 p.m., and that no meetings should be held on weekends. The Committee may also wish to recommend to the General Assembly that this cost-saving measure should also apply, for the remainder of 1996, to meetings on the calendar of conferences and meetings.

12. The General Committee may further wish to recommend that, in order to avoid the late start of meetings, the General Assembly should waive, in view of the practice at recent sessions, the requirement of the presence of at least one third of the members to declare a plenary meeting open and permit the debate to proceed and one quarter of the members to declare a meeting of a Main Committee open and permit the debate to proceed. This recommendation would be made on the understanding that such a waiver would not imply any permanent change in the provisions of rules 67 and 108 of the rules of procedure and that the requirement of the presence of a majority of the members for any decision to be taken would be maintained.

13. Furthermore, the General Committee may wish to recommend to the General Assembly that delegations should be reminded of the utmost importance of punctuality in the interest of ensuring an effective and orderly organization of work and achieving economies for the United Nations.

E. General debate

14. In accordance with recent practice, the Secretary-General suggests that the general debate should begin on Monday, 23 September, and end on Friday, 11 October 1996.

15. The Secretary-General also suggests that the list of speakers in the general debate should be closed on Wednesday, 25 September, at 6 p.m.

16. The General Committee may wish to draw the General Assembly's attention to the decision taken by the Assembly at previous sessions, namely, that the practice of expressing congratulations inside the General Assembly Hall after a speech has been delivered is prohibited. In this connection, the Committee may wish to recommend to the Assembly that speakers in the general debate, after delivering their statements, should leave the General Assembly Hall through room GA-200 located behind the podium before returning to their seats.

F. Explanations of vote, right of reply, points of order and length of statements

17. The General Committee may wish to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of its decision 34/401 (A/520/Rev.15, annex VI), which reads as follows:

"6. Explanations of vote should be limited to ten minutes.

"7. When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee.

"8. Delegations should exercise their right of reply at the end of the day whenever two meetings have been scheduled for that day and whenever such meetings are devoted to the consideration of the same item."

18. The Secretary-General wishes to suggest that, in line with time-limits for explanations of vote and the right of reply, the General Committee recommend to the General Assembly limiting points of order to five minutes.

19. With a view to streamlining the procedures of the General Assembly and as another cost-saving measure, the General Committee, in connection with the length of statements, may wish to draw the attention of the Assembly, as it did at recent sessions, to rules 72 and 114 of the rules of procedure and paragraph 22 of annex VI thereto for appropriate action in plenary meeting and the Main Committees.

G. Records of meetings

20. As at past sessions, verbatim records will continue to be provided, during the fifty-first session, for the plenary meetings of the General Assembly and meetings of the First Committee and summary records will be provided to the General Committee and the Main Committees of the Assembly. In accordance with the recommendation of the Special Committee on the Rationalization of the Procedures and Organization of the General Assembly (ibid., annex V, para. 108 (b)), the General Committee may wish to recommend that the General Assembly should maintain for the fifty-first session the practice whereby the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) may obtain, on specific request, transcriptions of the debates of some of its meetings, or portions thereof. These transcriptions, which would not be part of the official records of the Committee, would be provided as the required services became available. Furthermore, the General Committee may wish to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraphs 8 and 9 of its resolution 38/32 E of 25 November 1983, which read as follows:

"8. Decides that the practice of reproducing statements in extenso as separate documents shall be discontinued for all its subsidiary organs that are entitled to summary records;

"9. Decides further that any exceptions to this rule may be made by the body concerned only if the statements are to serve as bases for discussion and if, after hearing a statement of the relevant financial implications, the body decides that one or more statements in extenso may be included in the summary record, or reproduced as separate documents or as annexes to authorized documents".

In this connection, the General Committee may also wish to recommend to the Assembly that the practice not to reproduce in extenso statements made in a Main Committee should be maintained for the fifty-first session.

H. Seating arrangements

21. In accordance with established practice, the Secretary-General has drawn lots for the purpose of choosing the Member State to occupy the first desk on the General Assembly floor from which the alphabetical seating order will begin. The name drawn was Italy. Consequently, the delegation of that country will sit at the first desk at the right of the President and the other countries will follow in the English alphabetical order. The same order will be observed in the Main Committees.

I. Concluding statements

22. The General Committee may wish to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 17 of its decision 34/401 (ibid., annex VI), which reads as follows:

"17. To save time at the end of the session, the practice of making concluding statements in the General Assembly and its Main Committees should be dispensed with except for statements by the presiding officers."

J. Resolutions

23. The General Committee may wish to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 32 of its decision 34/401 (ibid.), which reads as follows:

"32. Whenever possible, resolutions requesting the discussion of a question at a subsequent session should not call for the inclusion of a separate new item and such discussion should be held under the item under which the resolution was adopted."

24. The General Committee may also wish to draw the attention of the General Assembly to recommendation 3 (f) of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts, which reads as follows:

"(f) Efforts should be made to reduce the number of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly. Resolutions should request reports of the Secretary-General only in cases where that would be indispensable for facilitating the implementation of these resolutions or the continued examination of the question."

25. In this connection, the General Committee may wish to draw the attention of the General Assembly to paragraph 5 of its resolution 48/264, which reads as follows:

> "5. Encourages Member States to exercise restraint in making proposals requesting new reports of the Secretary-General, bearing in mind the desirability of reducing the number of such reports".

26. The General Committee may also wish to draw the attention of the General Assembly to paragraph 24 of annex I of resolution 50/227, which reads as follows:

> "24. For issues of a procedural nature, decisions, instead of resolutions, should be used to the maximum extent possible. Resolutions should be shorter, in particular as regards preambular parts. The bureaux, in reviewing the respective agendas, could identify and recommend those individual items or clusters of related items that could be effectively considered in omnibus resolutions."

27. The General Committee may further wish to draw the attention of the General Assembly to paragraphs 1 and 10 of the annex to resolution 45/45 (A/520/Rev.15/Amend.1, annex VIII).

K. Documentation

28. The General Committee may wish to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 28 of its decision 34/401 (A/520/Rev.15, annex VI), which reads as follows:

> "28. The General Assembly, including its Main Committees, should merely take note of those reports of the Secretary-General or subsidiary organs which do not require a decision by the Assembly and should neither debate nor adopt resolutions on them, unless specifically requested to do so by the Secretary-General or the organ concerned."

29. The General Committee may wish to draw the attention of the General Assembly to paragraph 6 of its resolution 48/264, which reads as follows:

> "6. Emphasizes that reports requested of the Secretary-General should be made available in all official languages in a timely manner in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and the annexes thereto with a view to enabling delegations to consider the substance of such reports more thoroughly in advance of meetings".

The Committee may also wish to draw the attention of the Assembly to paragraph 4 of resolution 50/206 C, in which the Assembly once again requested the Secretary-General "to ensure that documentation is available in accordance with the six-week rule for the distribution of documents, simultaneously in each of the six official languages of the United Nations".

30. The Secretary-General feels obliged to emphasize once again that, despite the provisions adopted by the General Assembly to control and limit documentation, the volume of pre-session documentation has consistently increased in recent years, without any strengthening of resources, thus contributing to serious delays in the issuance of documentation.

L. Questions related to the programme budget

31. The Secretary-General would like to draw the attention of the General Committee to rule 153 of the rules of procedure, which reads as follows:

> "No resolution involving expenditure shall be recommended by a committee for approval by the General Assembly unless it is accompanied by an estimate of expenditures prepared by the Secretary-General. No resolution in respect of which expenditures are anticipated by the Secretary-General shall be voted by the General Assembly until the Administrative and Budgetary Committee (Fifth Committee) has had an opportunity of stating the effect of the proposal upon the budget estimates of the United Nations."

In this connection, the General Committee may wish to draw the Assembly's attention to paragraph 12 of its decision 34/401 (ibid.), which reads as follows:

> "12. It is imperative that Main Committees should allow sufficient time for the preparation of the estimate of expenditures by the Secretariat and for its consideration by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Fifth Committee and that they should take this requirement into account when they adopt their programme of work."

Furthermore, the General Committee may wish to draw the attention of the Assembly to paragraph 6 of its resolution 35/10 A of 3 November 1980, which reads as follows:

> "6. Decides that all proposals affecting the schedule of conferences and meetings made at sessions of the General Assembly shall be reviewed by the Committee on Conferences when administrative implications are being considered under the requirements of rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly."

The General Committee may also wish to draw the Assembly's attention to regulation 4.9 of the Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (resolution 37/234, annex), which reads as follows:

> "Regulation 4.9. No Council, Commission or other competent body shall take a decision involving either a change in the programme budget approved by the General Assembly or the possible requirement of expenditure unless it has received and taken account of a report from the Secretary-General on the programme budget implications of the proposal."

32. The General Committee may also wish to recall paragraph 13 of decision 34/401 (A/520/Rev.15, annex VI), which reads as follows:

"13. Furthermore:

"(a) A mandatory deadline, not later than 1 December, should be established for the submission to the Fifth Committee of all draft resolutions with financial implications;

"(b) The Fifth Committee should, as a general practice, consider accepting without debate the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the financial implications of draft resolutions up to a prescribed limit, namely, $25,000 on any one item;

"(c) Firm deadlines should be set for the early submission of the reports of subsidiary bodies which require consideration by the Fifth Committee;

"(d) A minimum period of forty-eight hours should be allowed between the submission and the voting of a proposal involving expenditure in order to allow the Secretary-General to prepare and present the related statement of administrative and financial implications."

33. In connection with subparagraph 13 (d) of decision 34/401 quoted above, experience has shown that, depending on the type and complexity of the proposals involving changes in the work programme and additional expenditures, the preparation of a statement of programme budget implications by the Secretary-General may take a few days. In addition, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Fifth Committee need adequate time to review the programme budget implications of a draft resolution before the latter can be acted on by the Assembly.

34. It is thus desirable that Member States submit proposals involving statements of programme budget implications sufficiently in advance to avoid the cancellation of meetings and the postponement of consideration of items.

M. Observances and commemorative meetings

35. Observances and commemorative meetings held in plenary meeting have for the most part followed a well-defined pattern. Considering past practice and allowing for the necessary flexibility, the General Committee may wish to recommend that, with the exception of the anniversary of the United Nations, the General Assembly should adopt the following format for commemorative meetings: statements by the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General, statements by the chairmen of the five regional groups and by the representative of the host country. The Committee may also wish to recommend to the Assembly that, according to established practice, each statement should be limited to 15 minutes.

36. It is further suggested that observances and commemorative meetings take place, as far as possible, immediately following the general debate. The advantage of such a procedure is that it may facilitate the participation of dignitaries attending the general debate. This procedure would also allow advance planning of the work of the General Assembly.

N. Special conferences

37. The General Committee may wish to draw the General Assembly's attention to recommendation 6 of the Committee on Conferences, adopted by the Assembly in paragraph (b) of its decision 34/405, which reads as follows:

> "(b) The Committee, taking into account difficulties encountered in ensuring adequate preparation of meetings, including timely distribution of documentation, as well as the ability of Member States to participate fully, recommends that the General Assembly should instruct the Main Committees to review the number of special conferences of the United Nations already proposed and scheduled in their respective fields of activity prior to deciding upon the scheduling of new and additional special conferences, thus bearing in mind the relevant portions of General Assembly resolution 33/55."

The General Committee may also wish to draw the Assembly's attention to recommendation 2 (d) of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts, which reads as follows:

> "Until 1978, a number of resolutions had requested that only one major conference be scheduled annually. The decision of the General Assembly that no more than five special conferences should take place in a given year and that no more than one special conference should be convened at the same time should be strictly implemented."

38. In this connection, the General Committee may further wish to draw the General Assembly's attention to the relevant provisions of recommendation 4 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts, which reads as follows:

> "The existing principle that United Nations bodies should meet at their respective established headquarters, as provided for in General Assembly resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985, should be strictly enforced. Whenever the Assembly accepts an invitation from the Government of a Member State to hold a conference or meeting away from established headquarters, the additional cost should be borne in full by that Government. The methods of budgeting these costs should be improved so as to ensure that all additional costs are accounted for."

O. Meetings of subsidiary organs

39. In accordance with section 1, paragraph 7, of General Assembly resolution 40/243, no subsidiary organ of the Assembly should be permitted to meet at United Nations Headquarters during a regular session of the Assembly, unless

explicitly authorized by the Assembly. In this connection, the Secretary-General wishes to draw the attention of the General Committee to a letter dated 6 September 1996 (A/51/337) in which the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences informed the President of the General Assembly that the Committee had recommended, on the strict understanding that meetings would have to be accommodated within available facilities and services, that the following subsidiary organs should be authorized to meet during the main part of the fifty-first session:

(a) Committee on Conferences;

(b) Committee on Relations with the Host Country;

(c) Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People;

(d) Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund;

(e) Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations;

(f) Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

III. OBSERVATIONS AND PROPOSALS ON THE ORGANIZATION OF FUTURE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

40. The agenda of the General Assembly reflects the concern of Member States with a myriad of issues spanning political, economic, social and financial fields. The growing complexity of many global issues and their increasingly interdisciplinary nature pose a challenge to the Organization's ability to respond swiftly.

41. The General Assembly is faced with many items that require timely and purposeful consideration, often under stringent deadlines. It is therefore imperative that it continue to improve its operating procedures so as to organize its work effectively and make optimum use of the time available.

42. During the past few years, the General Assembly met frequently between January and August. Most recently, during its fiftieth session, the Assembly held 22 meetings between February and August 1996, which was almost a quarter of the total of 100 plenary meetings that the Assembly held from September to December 1995. Those meetings were not envisaged in the calendar of meetings and therefore ad hoc arrangements had to be made to continue to provide adequate secretariat services at the expense of other requirements. It may be worthwhile for the Assembly to consider whether the rationalization of Assembly meetings between January and August is possible to allow advance planning for delegations and the Secretariat.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

43. All proposals for the inclusion of items in the agenda of the fifty-first session have been communicated to Member States in the following documents:

(a) Provisional agenda of the fifty-first session (A/51/150);

(b) Supplementary list (A/51/200).

The items proposed for inclusion are listed in the draft agenda, which appears in paragraph 45 below.

44. Bearing in mind the need to rationalize the General Assembly's procedures, and in view of the large number of items on the draft agenda, the Secretary-General wishes to recall the recommendation of the Special Committee on the Rationalization of the Procedures and Organization of the General Assembly that Member States should examine the agenda with a view to eliminating items that have lost their urgency or relevance, are not ripe for consideration or could be dealt with and even disposed of equally well by subsidiary organs of the General Assembly, and to referring specific items to other United Nations organs or to specialized agencies, taking into account the nature of the question (A/520/Rev.15, annex V, paras. 19 and 22; see also ibid., annex VII, paras. 1 and 2). The Secretary-General wishes also to recall paragraphs 4 and 5 (a) and (c) of annex I to resolution 48/264, which read as follows:

> "4. There shall be periodic reviews of the agenda, taking into account the views of concerned Member States, in order to ascertain whether it is possible to delete any item on which no resolution or decision has been adopted for a period of time.
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> "5. The Main Committees should be encouraged to continue with the review of their respective agendas, taking into account, inter alia, the following:
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> "(a) Agenda items concerning issues of closely related substance could be merged within a single agenda title or be incorporated as sub-items where this is possible without loss of focus on the items/sub-items concerned;
>
> ...
>
> "(c) Biennialization and triennialization of items on the agenda of the Main Committees could be considered in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly".

In addition, bearing in mind the extremely heavy workload of the Assembly and the need to make the most effective use of scarce resources, the Committee may wish to consider deferring to a later session items for which decisions or action are not required at the main part of the present session.

45. Subject to the recommendations of the General Committee regarding paragraphs 43 and 44 above, the draft agenda of the fifty-first session would consist of the following items: 2/

1. Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Portugal (P.1).

2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation (P.2).

3. Credentials of representatives to the fifty-first session of the General Assembly (P.3):

   (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;

   (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.

4. Election of the President of the General Assembly (P.4).

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees (P.5).

6. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly (P.6).

7. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations (P.7).

8. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: reports of the General Committee (P.8).

9. General debate (P.9).

10. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (P.10). 3/

11. Report of the Security Council (P.11).

12. Report of the Economic and Social Council (P.12).

13. Report of the International Court of Justice (P.13).

14. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (P.14).

2/ Abbreviations used in the present document:

(P.): item on the provisional agenda (A/51/150);

(S.): item on the supplementary list (A/51/200).

3/ This item remains also on the agenda of the fiftieth session (decision 50/475 of 23 December 1995).

15. Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs (P.15):

    (a) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council;

    (b) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council;

    (c) Election of five members of the International Court of Justice.

16. Appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations (P.16).

17. Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections (P.17):

    (a) Election of the members of the International Law Commission;

    (b) Election of twenty members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

    (c) Election of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme.

18. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments (P.18):

    (a) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

    (b) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions;

    (c) Appointment of a member of the Board of Auditors;

    (d) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee;

    (e) Appointment of members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal;

    (f) Appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission;

    (g) Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences;

    (h) Appointment of members of the Joint Inspection Unit;

    (i) Confirmation of the appointment of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme.

19. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (P.19).

20. Admission of new Members to the United Nations (P.20).

21. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance (P.21):

    (a) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

    (b) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions; 3/

    (c) Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan;

    (d) Assistance to the Palestinian people.

22. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States (P.22).

23. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee (P.23).

24. Law of the sea (P.24):

    (a) Law of the sea;

    (b) Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks;

    (c) Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas; unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas; and fisheries by-catch and discards and their impact on the sustainable use of the world's living marine resources.

25. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community (P.25).

26. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization (P.26).

27. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba (P.27).

28. Universal Congress on the Panama Canal (P.28).

29. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (P.29).

30. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States (P.30).

31. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (P.31).

32. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic (P.32).

33. The situation in the Middle East (P.33). 4/

34. Assistance in mine clearance (P.34).

35. Question of Palestine (P.35). 3/

36. International assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Nicaragua: aftermath of the war and natural disasters (P.36).

37. The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti (P.37).

38. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (P.38).

39. The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (P.39).

40. The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development (P.40). 5/

41. Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies (P.41).

42. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (P.42).

43. The situation in Burundi (P.43).

44. Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (P.44). 6/

45. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development (P.45).

46. Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields (P.46).

4/ This item remains also on the agenda of the fiftieth session (see A/50/PV.117).

5/ This item remains also on the agenda of the fiftieth session (see A/50/PV.118).

6/ This item remains also on the agenda of the fiftieth session (see A/50/PV.121).

47. Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters (P.47). 3/

48. Strengthening of the United Nations system (P.48). 3/

49. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (P.49).

50. Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (P.50).

51. Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986 (P.51).

52. Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security (P.52).

53. Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait (P.53).

54. Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations (P.54).

55. Launching of global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development (P.55).

56. The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (P.56). 7/

57. Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte (P.57). 7/

58. Question of Cyprus (P.58). 7/

59. Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (P.59). 7/

60. Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament (P.60).

7/ This item, which has not been considered by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, remains on the agenda of that session (decision 50/475 of 23 December 1995). Its inclusion in the provisional agenda of the fifty-first session is subject to any action that the Assembly may take on it at its fiftieth session.

61. Reduction of military budgets (P.61):

    (a) Reduction of military budgets;

    (b) Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures.

62. Question of Antarctica (P.62).

63. The role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament (P.63).

64. The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields (P.64).

65. Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water (P.65).

66. Implementation of the comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty (P.66).

67. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East (P.67).

68. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia (P.68).

69. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons (P.69).

70. Prevention of an arms race in outer space (P.70).

71. General and complete disarmament (P.71):

    (a) Notification of nuclear tests;

    (b) Transparency in armaments;

    (c) Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes;

    (d) Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament: report of the Preparatory Committee for the Fourth Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament;

    (e) Relationship between disarmament and development;

    (f) Measures to curb the illicit transfer and use of conventional arms;

    (g) Regional disarmament;

    (h) Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

    (i) Nuclear disarmament;

(j) Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and of vehicles for their delivery in all its aspects.

72. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly (P.72):

(a) United Nations Disarmament Information Programme;

(b) United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services;

(c) Regional confidence-building measures;

(d) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

(e) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons.

73. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session (P.73):

(a) Report of the Disarmament Commission;

(b) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;

(c) Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters;

(d) United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;

(e) Confidence-building measures.

74. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East (P.74).

75. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (P.75).

76. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region (P.76).

77. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace (P.77).

78. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) (P.78).

79. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (P.79).

80. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (P.80).

81. Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security (P.81).

82. Effects of atomic radiation (P.82).

83. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (P.83).

84. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (P.84).

85. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (P.85).

86. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects (P.86).

87. Questions relating to information (P.87).

88. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations (P.88).

89. Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination (P.89).

90. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (P.90).

91. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories (P.91).

92. Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India (P.92).

93. Question of East Timor (P.93).

94. The situation in the occupied territories of Croatia (P.94).

95. Question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations (P.95).

96. Macroeconomic policy questions (P.96):

    (a) External debt crisis and development;

(b) Financing of development, including net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries;

(c) Trade and development; 8/

(d) Commodities.

97. Sectoral policy questions (P.97):

(a) Industrial development cooperation;

(b) Food and sustainable agricultural development.

98. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation (P.98):

(a) Implementation and follow-up to major consensus agreements on development:

(i) Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of the Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries;

(ii) Implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade;

(b) Agenda for development: 9/

(i) Agenda for development;

(ii) Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership;

(c) Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy;

(d) Population and development;

(e) Human settlements;

(f) Eradication of poverty;

(g) Cultural development.

8/ This item remains also on the agenda of the fiftieth session (see A/50/PV.103).

9/ This item remains also on the agenda of the fiftieth session (see A/50/PV.119).

99. Environment and sustainable development (P.99):

(a) Implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

(b) Special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21;

(c) Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

(d) Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

(e) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind;

(f) International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction.

100. Operational activities for development (P.100).

101. Training and research (P.101):

(a) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;

(b) United Nations University.

102. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family (P.102).

103. Crime prevention and criminal justice (P.103).

104. International drug control (P.104).

105. Advancement of women (P.105).

106. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women (P.106).

107. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions (P.107).

108. Promotion and protection of the rights of children (P.108).

109. Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (P.109).

110. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination (P.110).

111. Right of peoples to self-determination (P.111).

112. Human rights questions (P.112):

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments;

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms; 3/

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

113. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors (P.113):

(a) United Nations;

(b) United Nations Development Programme;

(c) United Nations Children's Fund;

(d) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

(e) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;

(f) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

(g) Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;

(h) United Nations Population Fund;

(i) United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;

(j) Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

(k) United Nations Office for Project Services.

114. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (P.114). 10/

10/ This item remains also on the agenda of the fiftieth session (see A/50/PV.104).

115. Programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 (P.115). 11/

116. Programme planning (P.116).

117. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations (P.117). 7/

118. Programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 (P.118). 11/

119. Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (P.119).

120. Pattern of conferences (P.120).

121. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (P.121). 10/

122. Human resources management (P.122): 11/

(a) Implementation of the Secretary-General's strategy for the management of the Organization's human resources and other human resources management issues;

(b) Composition of the Secretariat;

(c) Respect for the privileges and immunities of officials of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and related organizations.

123. United Nations common system (P.123). 3/

124. United Nations pension system (P.124).

125. Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping forces in the Middle East (P.125): 11/

(a) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force;

(b) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

126. Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (P.126). 11/

127. Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991) (P.127): 11/

(a) United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission;

(b) Other activities.

11/ This item remains also on the agenda of the fiftieth session (A/50/PV.120).

128. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (P.128). 11/

129. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (P.129). 3/

130. Financing and liquidation of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (P.130). 7/

131. Financing of the United Nations Protection Force, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force and the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters (P.131). 11/

132. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II (P.132). 7/

133. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (P.133). 7/

134. Financing of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (P.134). 11/

135. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (P.135). 11/

136. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti (P.136). 11/

137. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (P.137). 11/

138. Financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (P.138). 11/

139. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (P.139). 11/

140. Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (P.140). 11/

141. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (P.141). 11/

142. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations (P.142):

    (a) Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations; 11/

    (b) Relocation of Ukraine to the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (c) of General Assembly resolution 43/232.

143. Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (P.143).

144. Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts (P.144).

145. Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives (P.145).

146. Convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses (P.146).

147. United Nations Decade of International Law (P.147). 12/

148. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its forty-eighth session (P.148).

149. Establishment of an international criminal court (P.149).

150. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its twenty-ninth session (P.150).

151. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country (P.151).

152. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization (P.152).

153. Measures to eliminate international terrorism (P.153).

154. Progressive development of the principles and norms of international law relating to the new international economic order (P.154).

155. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (P.155). 11/

156. Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (P.156). 11/

157. Financing of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (P.157). 11/

158. Observer status for the International Criminal Police Organization-Interpol in the General Assembly (P.158).

159. Consideration of the exceptional situation of the inability, resulting from General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), of the 21.3 million people on Taiwan, Republic of China, to participate in the activities of the United Nations (P.159).

160. Financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti (S.1).

12/ This item remains also on the agenda of the fiftieth session (see A/50/PV.102).

161. Question of elaboration of an international convention against organized transnational crime (S.2).

162. Elimination of coercive economic measures as a means of political and economic compulsion (S.3).

163. Advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons (S.4). 13/

V. ALLOCATION OF ITEMS

46. The allocation of items described in paragraph 56 below is based on the pattern adopted by the General Assembly for those items in previous years. The Secretary-General trusts that delegations will consider allotting items in a manner which will best enhance the effectiveness and the impact of the Assembly's work. In this connection, the General Committee may wish to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 4 of its decision 34/401 (A/520/Rev.15, annex VI), which reads as follows:

> "4. Substantive items should normally be discussed initially in a Main Committee and, therefore, items previously allocated to plenary meetings should henceforth be referred to a Main Committee unless there are compelling circumstances requiring their continued consideration in plenary meeting."

The General Committee may also wish to draw the Assembly's attention to paragraph 3 of annex I of resolution 48/264. The Secretary-General wishes to draw the General Committee's attention to the relevant paragraphs of resolution 39/88 B and resolution 45/45 (A/520/Rev.15 and Amend.1, annexes VII and VIII). Paragraph 5 of the annex to resolution 39/88 B reads as follows:

> "5. The Chairmen of the Main Committees should take the initiative, in the light of past experience, to propose the grouping of similar or related items and the holding of a single general debate on them."

Paragraph 6 of the annex to resolution 45/45 reads as follows:

> "6. In making recommendations as to how agenda items should be allocated to the Main Committees and the plenary of the General Assembly, the General Committee should ensure the best use of the expertise of the Committees."

In this connection, the Secretary-General also wishes to draw the General Committee's attention to paragraphs 2 and 5 (b) and (d) of annex I of resolution 48/264, which read as follows:

13/ The sponsor has requested the inclusion of this supplementary sub-item under item 71 of the draft agenda (General and complete disarmament) (see A/51/194).

"2. Agenda items which are of a nature that relates to more than one Main Committee or which do not come within the purview of any Main Committee should be considered by the General Assembly in plenary meeting, taking into account the recommendations of the General Committee.

...

"5. The Main Committees should be encouraged to continue with the review of their respective agendas, taking into account, inter alia, the following:

...

"(b) Items that cover related matters or issues could be considered in agreed clusters;

...

"(d) The existing broad division of work among the Main Committees should be maintained."

47. The following items of the draft agenda have not been considered previously by the General Assembly:

158. Observer status for the International Criminal Police Organization-Interpol in the General Assembly (P.158).

159. Consideration of the exceptional situation of the inability, resulting from General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), of the 21.3 million people on Taiwan, Republic of China, to participate in the activities of the United Nations (P.159).

160. Financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti (S.1).

161. Question of elaboration of an international convention against organized transnational crime (S.2).

162. Elimination of coercive economic measures as a means of political and economic compulsion (S.3).

163. Advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons (S.4).

The sponsors of the requests for the inclusion of the following items have suggested that they should be allocated as follows:

Item 158 ..... Plenary meetings

Item 159 ..... Plenary meetings

Item 161 ..... Third or Sixth Committee

Item 162 ..... Plenary meetings

Item 163 ..... First Committee 13/

It is suggested that item 160, which was referred to the General Assembly by the Secretary-General, should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.

48. In connection with item 12 of the draft agenda (Report of the Economic and Social Council), the Secretary-General proposes that, as in previous years, the various parts of the report should be assigned to the Main Committees in accordance with their respective fields of competence or to plenary meetings, on the understanding that the administrative, programme and budgetary aspects should be dealt with by the Fifth Committee. Bearing that consideration in mind, the Secretary-General recommends the following allocation for the various parts of the report: 14/

Chapter I	Matters calling for action by the General Assembly or brought to its attention	Plenary meetings, Second, Third and Fifth Committees
Chapter II	High-level segment of the Council	Plenary meetings and Third Committee
Chapter III	Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system	Plenary meetings, Second and Third Committees
Chapter IV	Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation ...	Plenary meetings, Second and Third Committees
Chapter V	General segment	
Section A	Social, humanitarian and human rights questions	Plenary meetings, Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) and Third Committee
Section B	Economic and environmental questions	Second Committee

14/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/51/3).

	Section C	Regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields	Second Committee
	Section D	Permanent sovereignty over national resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories	Second Committee
	Section E	Coordination questions	Second, Third and Fifth Committees
	Section F	Non-governmental organizations	Plenary meetings
	Section G	Programme and related questions in the economic, social and related fields	Fifth Committee
	Section H	New and innovative ideas for generating funds	Second Committee
Chapter VI		Elections, nominations and confirmations	Plenary meetings
Chapter VII		Organizational matters	Plenary meetings, Second, Third and Fifth Committees

49. With regard to item 19 of the draft agenda (Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples), the General Committee may wish to consider referring to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) chapters of the report of the Special Committee (A/51/23) relating to specific Territories; this would again enable the General Assembly to deal in plenary meeting with the question of the implementation of the Declaration as a whole.

50. With regard to item 49 of the draft agenda (Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)), the Secretary-General wishes to remind the General Committee that at previous sessions the General Assembly decided to consider this item directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that bodies and individuals having an interest in the question would be heard in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in conjunction with the consideration of the item in plenary meeting.

51. With regard to item 58 of the draft agenda (Question of Cyprus), the General Committee will recall that at its forty-second session 15/ the General Assembly decided to consider this item directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that it would, when considering the item, invite the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) to meet for the purpose of affording representatives of the Cypriot communities an opportunity to take the floor in the Committee in order to express their views, and that the Assembly would then resume its consideration of the item, taking into account the report of the Committee.

15/ This item has not been discussed since the thirty-seventh session.

52. In connection with item 71 of the draft agenda (General and complete disarmament), the Secretary-General wishes to draw the attention of the General Committee to the fact that some portions of the annual report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (A/51/307), which is to be considered directly in plenary meeting under item 14, deal with the subject-matter of this item. The General Committee may therefore wish to recommend that the relevant paragraphs of the report should be drawn to the attention of the First Committee in connection with its consideration of item 71.

53. With regard to item 100 of the draft agenda (Operational activities for development), the Secretary-General wishes to recall that the Economic and Social Council by its decision 1996/226 of 10 July 1996 endorsed decision 1996/18 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund, in which the Executive Board recommended that the General Assembly allocate a plenary meeting during its fifty-first session to the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the operations of the United Nations Children's Fund, and recommended its approval by the Assembly at its fifty-first session. The General Committee may wish to recommend to the Assembly that the commemoration be held on Wednesday, 11 December 1996, in the morning.

54. In connection with item 105 of the draft agenda (Advancement of women), the Secretary-General wishes to recall paragraph 16 of the annex to resolution 39/125 of 14 December 1984 concerning the United Nations Development Fund for Women, which reads as follows:

> "16. Taking into account the advice of the Consultative Committee, the Administrator shall submit to the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme an annual report on the operations, management and budget of the Fund. He shall submit a similar report to the General Assembly, to be referred to the Second Committee for consideration of its technical cooperation aspects and also to the Third Committee."

The General Committee may therefore wish to recommend that the report be referred to the Second Committee for consideration under item 100 of the draft agenda (Operational activities for development).

55. With regard to item 122 of the draft agenda (Human resources management), the Secretary-General wishes to recall paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 50/240 of 7 June 1996, in which the General Assembly invited the Sixth Committee to examine, as a matter of priority, at the beginning of the fifty-first session, the legal implications of the proposals of the Secretary-General contained in his reports on the reform of the internal system of justice in the Secretariat, and requested the Fifth Committee to revert to the question of the internal system of justice in the Secretariat at the fifty-first regular session.

56. Subject to changes that may be made by the General Committee in the light of paragraphs 46 to 55 above, the allocation of the items of the draft agenda, as based on previous practice, would be the following: 16/

16/ For the abbreviations used in the allocation of items, see footnote 2.

Plenary meetings

1. Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Portugal (P.1).

2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation (P.2).

3. Credentials of representatives to the fifty-first session of the General Assembly (P.3):

   (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;

   (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.

4. Election of the President of the General Assembly (P.4).

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees (P.5).

6. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly (P.6).

7. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations (P.7).

8. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: reports of the General Committee (P.8).

9. General debate (P.9).

10. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (P.10) 3/

11. Report of the Security Council (P.11).

12. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I, II, III, IV, V (sections A and F), VI and VII] (P.12). 17/

17/ The chapters of the report listed below would be referred also to the Second, Third and Fifth Committees, as follows:

(a)	Chapters I and VII	Second, Third and Fifth Committees
(b)	Chapter II	Third Committee
(c)	Chapters III and IV	Second and Third Committees
(d)	Chapter V (section A)	Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) and Third Committee

For further details, see para. 48.

13. Report of the International Court of Justice (P.13).

14. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (P.14). 18/

15. Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs (P.15):

    (a) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council;

    (b) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council;

    (c) Election of five members of the International Court of Justice.

16. Appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations (P.16).

17. Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections (P.17):

    (a) Election of the members of the International Law Commission;

    (b) Election of twenty members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

    (c) Election of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme.

18. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments (P.18): 19/

    (g) Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences;

    (h) Appointment of members of the Joint Inspection Unit;

    (i) Confirmation of the appointment of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme.

19. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (P.19) 20/

20. Admission of new Members to the United Nations (P.20).

21. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance (P.21):

18/ See para. 52.

19/ For sub-items (a) to (f), see "Fifth Committee", item 36.

20/ See para. 49.

(a) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

(b) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions; 3/

(c) Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan;

(d) Assistance to the Palestinian people.

22. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States (P.22).

23. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee (P.23).

24. Law of the sea (P.24):

(a) Law of the sea;

(b) Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks;

(c) Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas; unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas; and fisheries by-catch and discards and their impact on the sustainable use of the world's living marine resources.

25. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community (P.25).

26. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization (P.26).

27. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba (P.27).

28. Universal Congress on the Panama Canal (P.28).

29. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (P.29).

30. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States (P.30).

31. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (P.31).

32. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic (P.32).

33. The situation in the Middle East (P.33). 4/

34. Assistance in mine clearance (P.34).

35. Question of Palestine (P.35). 3/

36. International assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Nicaragua: aftermath of the war and natural disasters (P.36).

37. The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti (P.37).

38. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (P.38).

39. The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (P.39).

40. The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development (P.40). 5/

41. Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies (P.41).

42. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (P.42).

43. The situation in Burundi (P.43).

44. Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (P.44). 6/

45. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development (P.45).

46. Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields (P.46).

47. Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters (P.47). 3/

48. Strengthening of the United Nations system (P.48). 3/

49. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (P.49). 21/

50. Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (P.50).

21/ See para. 50.

51. Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986 (P.51).

52. Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security (P.52).

53. Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait (P.53).

54. Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations (P.54).

55. Launching of global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development (P.55).

56. The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (P.56). 7/

57. Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte (P.57). 7/

58. Question of Cyprus (P.58). 22/

59. Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (P.59).

22/ See para. 51; see also footnote 7.

First Committee

1. Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament (P.60).

2. Reduction of military budgets (P.61):

   (a) Reduction of military budgets;

   (b) Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures.

3. Question of Antarctica (P.62).

4. The role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament (P.63).

5. The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields (P.64).

6. Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water (P.65).

7. Implementation of the comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty (P.66).

8. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East (P.67).

9. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia (P.68).

10. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons (P.69).

11. Prevention of an arms race in outer space (P.70).

12. General and complete disarmament (P.71): 23/

   (a) Notification of nuclear tests;

   (b) Transparency in armaments;

   (c) Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes;

   (d) Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament: report of the Preparatory Committee for the Fourth Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament;

   (e) Relationship between disarmament and development;

23/ See para. 52.

(f) Measures to curb the illicit transfer and use of conventional arms;

(g) Regional disarmament;

(h) Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

(i) Nuclear disarmament;

(j) Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and of vehicles for their delivery in all its aspects.

13. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly (P.72):

(a) United Nations Disarmament Information Programme;

(b) United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services;

(c) Regional confidence-building measures;

(d) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

(e) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons.

14. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session (P.73):

(a) Report of the Disarmament Commission;

(b) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;

(c) Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters;

(d) United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;

(e) Confidence-building measures.

15. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East (P.74).

16. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (P.75).

17. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region (P.76).

18. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace (P.77).

19. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) (P.78).

20. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (P.79).

21. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (P.80).

22. Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security (P.81).

Special Political and Decolonization Committee
(Fourth Committee)

1. Effects of atomic radiation (P.82).

2. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (P.83).

3. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (P.84).

4. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (P.85).

5. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects (P.86).

6. Questions relating to information (P.87).

7. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations (P.88).

8. Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination (P.89).

9. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (P.90).

10. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapter V (section A)] (P.12). 24/

11. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories (P.91).

12. Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India (P.92).

13. Question of East Timor (P.93).

14. The situation in the occupied territories of Croatia (P.94).

24/ Chapter V (section A) would be referred also to plenary meetings and to the Third Committee. For further details, see para. 48.

15. Question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations (P.95).

16. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (P.19). 25/

25/ See para. 49.

Second Committee

1. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I, III, IV, V (sections B to E and H) and VII] (P.12). 26/

2. Macroeconomic policy questions (P.96):

   (a) External debt crisis and development;

   (b) Financing of development, including net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries;

   (c) Trade and development; 8/

   (d) Commodities.

3. Sectoral policy questions (P.97):

   (a) Industrial development cooperation;

   (b) Food and sustainable agricultural development.

4. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation (P.98):

   (a) Implementation and follow-up to major consensus agreements on development:

      (i) Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of the Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries;

      (ii) Implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade;

26/ The chapters of the report listed below would be referred also to plenary meetings and to the Third and Fifth Committees, as follows:

(a) Chapters I and VII	Plenary meetings and Third and Fifth Committees
(b) Chapters III and IV	Plenary meetings and Third Committee
(c) Chapter V (section E)	Third and Fifth Committees

For further details, see para. 48.

(b) Agenda for development: 9/

(i) Agenda for development;

(ii) Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership;

(c) Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy;

(d) Population and development;

(e) Human settlements;

(f) Eradication of poverty;

(g) Cultural development.

5. Environment and sustainable development (P.99):

(a) Implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

(b) Special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21;

(c) Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

(d) Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

(e) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind;

(f) International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction.

6. Operational activities for development (P.100). 27/

7. Training and research (P.101):

(a) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;

(b) United Nations University.

27/ See paras. 53 and 54.

Third Committee

1. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I to IV, V (sections A and E) and VII] (P.12). 28/

2. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family (P.102).

3. Crime prevention and criminal justice (P.103).

4. International drug control (P.104).

5. Advancement of women (P.105). 29/

6. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women (P.106).

7. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions (P.107).

8. Promotion and protection of the rights of children (P.108).

9. Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (P.109).

28/ The chapters of the report listed below would be referred also to plenary meetings and to the Second and Fifth Committees, as follows:

(a)	Chapters I and VII	Plenary meetings and Second and Fifth Committees
(b)	Chapter II	Plenary meetings
(c)	Chapters III and IV	Plenary meetings and Second Committee
(d)	Chapter V (section A)	Plenary meetings and Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
(e)	Chapter V (section E)	Second and Fifth Committees

For further details, see para. 48.

29/ See para. 54.

10. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination (P.110).

11. Right of peoples to self-determination (P.111).

12. Human rights questions (P.112):

    (a) Implementation of human rights instruments;

    (b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms; 3/

    (c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

    (d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

    (e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Fifth Committee

1. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors (P.113):

   (a) United Nations;

   (b) United Nations Development Programme;

   (c) United Nations Children's Fund;

   (d) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

   (e) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;

   (f) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

   (g) Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;

   (h) United Nations Population Fund;

   (i) United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;

   (j) Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

   (k) United Nations Office for Project Services.

2. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (P.114). 10/

3. Programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 (P.115). 11/

4. Programme planning (P.116).

5. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations (P.117). 7/

6. Programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 (P.118). 11/

7. Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (P.119).

8. Pattern of conferences (P.120).

9. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (P.121). 10/

10. Human resources management (P.122): 30/

    (a) Implementation of the Secretary-General's strategy for the management of the Organization's human resources and other human resources management issues;

    (b) Composition of the Secretariat;

    (c) Respect for the privileges and immunities of officials of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and related organizations.

11. United Nations common system (P.123). 3/

12. United Nations pension system (P.124).

13. Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping forces in the Middle East (P.125): 11/

    (a) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force;

    (b) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

14. Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (P.126). 11/

15. Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991) (P.127): 11/

    (a) United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission;

    (b) Other activities.

16. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (P.128). 11/

17. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (P.129). 3/

18. Financing and liquidation of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (P.130). 7/

19. Financing of the United Nations Protection Force, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force and the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters (P.131). 11/

20. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II (P.132). 7/

21. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (P.133). 7/

22. Financing of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (P.134). 11/

30/ See para. 55; see also footnote 11.

23. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (P.135). 11/

24. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti (P.136). 11/

25. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (P.137). 11/

26. Financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (P.138). 11/

27. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (P.139). 11/

28. Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (P.140). 11/

29. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (P.141). 11/

30. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations (P.142):

    (a) Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations; 11/

    (b) Relocation of Ukraine to the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (c) of General Assembly resolution 43/232.

31. Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (P.143).

32. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (P.155). 11/

33. Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (P.156). 11/

34. Financing of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (P.157). 11/

35. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I, V (sections E and G) and VII] (P.12). 31/

36. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments (P.18): 32/

(a) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(b) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions;

(c) Appointment of a member of the Board of Auditors;

(d) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee;

(e) Appointment of members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal;

(f) Appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission.

31/ The chapters of the report listed below would be referred also to plenary meetings and to the Second and Third Committees, as follows:

(a)	Chapters I and VII	Plenary meetings and Second and Third Committees
(b)	Chapter V (section E)	Second and Third Committees

For further details, see para. 48.

32/ For sub-items (g) to (i), see "Plenary meetings", item 18.

Sixth Committee

1. Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts (P.144).

2. Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives (P.145).

3. Convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses (P.146).

4. United Nations Decade of International Law (P.147). 12/

5. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its forty-eighth session (P.148).

6. Establishment of an international criminal court (P.149).

7. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its twenty-ninth session (P.150).

8. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country (P.151).

9. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization (P.152).

10. Measures to eliminate international terrorism (P.153).

11. Progressive development of the principles and norms of international law relating to the new international economic order (P.154).

12. Human resources management (P.122). 33/

33/ See para. 55.